

From: Chris Dalla
To: with a subject of 'Microsoft Settlement'
Date: 1/24/02 11:47am
Subject: Microsoft settlement

As an individual who has been involved in the field of personal computing almost since its inception, and as a U.S. Citizen who believes that the unbiased administration of justice, above all else, should be the primary end goal of our court system, I would like it known that it is my firm belief that the proposed settlement in the case of the United States v. Microsoft does not levy sufficient punitive action against Microsoft.

One of the founding precepts of our nation is that all citizens or entities will be treated equally and dispassionately in the eyes of the law. The market influence, bankroll, and corporate size associated with Microsoft and Bill Gates should in no way except them from just punishment for wrongdoing. For years, Bill Gates and Microsoft have been leeching the vitality out of the field of personal computing, unfairly wielding their market influence to the detriment of their competitors, and conducting business in a manner that is not in the best interest of the public. The time is now to send a message, not only to Microsoft and Bill Gates, but to big business everywhere that the sort of bullying, whiny business practices which Microsoft has established as its standard operating procedure are unacceptable.

Acceptance of this settlement does nothing more than send a clear signal to big business, and to the world in general, that our court system is really interested in nothing more than finding in favor of the highest bidder. Furthermore, I feel that this settlement is likely to set a precedent which is could easily to hinder the court's ability to hand down a strong judgement in the future, should a similar case arise in the months or years to come.

Thank you for your time.

With concern,

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